29th January 1934]

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"The question of kistbandi throughout the Province was examined in 1931 and 1932 and I am not prepared to reopen the general question again so early as this."

Levy of additional charges in cases of attachment of property for arrears of land revenue.

* 501 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that certain additional charges are levied in cases of attachment of property for arrears of land revenue besides collecting the actual arrears?

A.—Yes, when a special paid agency is employed for the purpose.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I ask whether it is not a fact that, without appointing any paid agency, the Government are charging extra fees for attachment of property?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I am not aware of it, Sir."

Floods in the districts of Godavari East and Godavari West.

* 502 *Q.*—Mr. G. SRIRAMULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there were recurring floods in the East and West Godavari districts on account of the abnormal rains and the consequent rise of the Godavari this year;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that standing crops in all the taluks of both the districts were partially damaged and that those in the lankas were completely damaged;

(*c*) whether the reports of the local authorities on the condition of the crops in the districts and especially in the lankas have been received and, if so, whether they will be placed on the table of the House;

(*d*) what help has already been rendered by the Government to the ryots affected by the flood and whether there is any proposal before the Government to advance loans to the ryots of the flood-affected areas in the districts so as to enable them to cultivate future crops of the year; and

(*e*) whether there are any proposals before the Government to grant remissions to the ryots of the districts?

A.—(*a*) to (*e*) The hon. Member is referred to the answers given to questions Nos. 447 and 448 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 10th November 1933 wherein the Government have already given particulars in respect of floods in the West Godavari district and the measures of financial relief taken by them.

Copies of the reports [a] of the Collector of East Godavari on floods in that district are laid on the table. The Government have already sanctioned the sum of Rs. 82 applied for by the Collector in his letter, dated 26th September 1933, and the sum of Rs. 500 applied for in his letter, dated 3rd November 1933. The Government have at present no other information. The granting of loans is governed by the provisions of the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, and the rules made under these Acts. The grant of remissions is governed by the provisions of Board's Standing Orders Nos. 13 and 14.

Rental on lands leased out to the depressed classes tenants' co-operative societies, Guntur district.

* 503 *Q.*—Mr. P. C. Moses: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the extent of land leased out by the Government to the several depressed classes tenants' co-operative societies in Guntur district before January 1933;

(*b*) the rental which these societies paid in 1932 for the lands leased to them;

(*c*) the rental fixed on such lands for the year 1933–34;

(*d*) whether the economic condition of the members of the tenants' co-operative societies was taken into consideration in raising the rent this year;

(*e*) the number of societies that could not accept the lease because of the high rental fixed for 1933–34;

(*f*) the reasons for change in the rental; and

(*g*) whether the Government will place on the table the Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue and also the orders of the Government on the lease of the lands in question for the past three years?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*f*) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the lease of lankas. The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

(*g*) The general rule regarding lease of lanka lands is contained in paragraph 35 (x) of B.S.O. No. 15 at page 53 of Board's Standing Order, Volume I, which is available in the Secretariat Library. Special rules framed for the lease of lankas in the Godavari river (which apply also to the Guntur district) are contained in G.O. No. 586, Revenue, dated 10th March 1920, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press. Lease of lankas to depressed classes is however made without auction. The Board of Revenue has been empowered to sanction such leases.

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 108–110 infra.